

what he believed in. He was a fierce partisan fighting for his party, his candidates, and his country but never approaching, let alone crossing the line in the 37 years that I knew him. He was unstinting in his beliefs but never cruel or unkind in his judgments.

The sadness on his passing is tempered by the knowledge of his rich and full life and that thousands of Oregonians and people around the country are the better for his friendship and his life's work.

HONORING MR. CHARLES BARNES,
OF IDAHO, FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF IDAHO

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give a speech I have long dreaded but knew would one day come. It is a speech many of us in this body have had to deliver from time-to-time—one that none of us likes to give but one that is entirely necessary and right.

The speech I am talking about is one that announces the retirement of a trusted staffer and ally, someone who has worked with me since my election to Congress and served the people of Idaho's Second Congressional District with distinction, class, and a sincerity matched by none.

That staffer is a gentleman named Charley Barnes. Charley has worked in my Twin Falls office for the past 8 years handling all of my agriculture outreach efforts and working day-in and day-out with the farmers and ranchers of Idaho to make sure their Government is effectively serving them.

When I first got to Washington, I was immediately awarded a seat on the House Agriculture Committee. While this assignment was a great honor and of immense importance to the people of my district, it was not an assignment that played to my greatest expertise. So I knew from the start that I was going to need exceptional staff to guide me through my duties on the committee and the re-write of the farm bill. And thank god I had Charley Barnes by my side to help me out.

I am proud of the farm bill we produced in 2002 and believe it has been perhaps the best farm bill this Congress has ever written. While I can't claim that Charley wrote the farm bill, he provided advice and counsel to me that was critical to my work as a member of the committee.

But Charley's service to the Second District went well beyond the re-write of the farm bill or preparing me for a few committee hearings.

When the farmers of Idaho's Second Congressional District were devastated by drought and disease, Charley was there to lend a helping hand and push his own boss to support disaster assistance payments that kept farmers out of bankruptcy and the economy of small, rural towns alive.

When the Federal Government mistakenly sprayed a product called OUST on private land, killing the sugar beets, wheat, and potatoes of Idaho farmers, Charley was there to witness the damage, organize the Idaho congressional delegation, and push the BLM and USDA to compensate farmers for their loss.

Idaho's farmers are still fighting this battle, but they have a great friend and advocate in Charley Barnes.

When the USDA tried to penalize Idaho's sugar farmers for their wrongful participation in a program for which they were told they qualified, Charley was there to argue against punishing these farmers. Charley made an impassioned defense of these producers, and in the end, Charley was proven right. USDA relented and Idaho's sugar farmers saw firsthand the value of a forceful advocate like Charley Barnes.

And when a farmer in my district is facing an appeal before the USDA over an issue where the farmer believes he had done nothing wrong, more often than not that farmer will see Charley Barnes attend that appeal, offer words of encouragement, and stand beside them for the duration of the hearing.

Charley Barnes doesn't see his work in my office as just another job. He sees his role in my office as an advocate for agriculture, an advocate for farmers and ranchers, an advocate for rural communities, and most importantly, an advocate for rural families.

Charley Barnes isn't just a congressional staffer, he's a farmer, a businessman, a husband, a father, and a very good friend.

Everyone who has ever met Charley Barnes is better off for having known him. The people of the Second District are better off for having been served by Charley Barnes. And I am a better Congressman today than I was 8 years ago because I had the good sense to hire, and learn from, Charley Barnes.

I know I speak for everyone in my office when I say that we are going to miss Charley's day-to-day presence in the office. But this is not goodbye, because we are going to be calling on Charley from time-to-time for some good advice, some constructive criticism, and a nudge in the right direction.

As he settles into retirement, and a well-deserved break from the daily grind of a long and distinguished career, I wish Charley well in all of his future endeavors and offer my sincere gratitude for all his hard work, great advice, and dedication to the people of Idaho.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LUBBOCK
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Lubbock Christian University on reaching the milestone of its 50th anniversary. LCU was established in 1957 with a mission to teach students the spiritual dimension of life, provide a quality education, and impart a system of values for living and for service to family, community, and church. This mission has led to a half century of striving for the best in education.

Lubbock Christian first opened as a junior college with F.W. Mattox as president, a new class of 110 students and was completely surrounded by farmland on the west side of Lubbock. In the fall of 1987, the college advanced to university status. Since this time, five presidents and numerous faculty and staff have contributed to the success of LCU. At one point, the faculty and staff sacrificed a month's

salary in order to provide financial assistance for the university.

Through the past 50 years, LCU has been able to achieve a stature worthy of great praise. The university now has more than 2,000 students, offers 34 bachelor's degrees and 10 master's degrees, more than 30 buildings, and a passion for changing lives by education and teachings from the Word of God.

Many things have changed in our world and in education over the past 50 years. To enable graduates to stay competitive in our ever-changing economy, our higher education system must be a key source for America's competitive advantage around the world. Lubbock Christian University is helping to make this idea a reality. Keeping Christian values at the forefront of their teachings will help to bring about great leaders for many years to come. I am proud to join the citizens of Lubbock in extending my appreciation for all the hard work of LCU's administration, faculty, staff, and past and current students. Our community would not be the same without the unparalleled contributions of the school.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO FRANK
HOVORE

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in sorrow to pay tribute to the life and memory of Franklin Thomas Hovore IV. Every once in a while, a person comes along who has the passion to explore the world, the ability to research the unknown, and the extraordinary capacity to teach what he has learned. Frank Hovore was such a man. Pursuing his life's passion in Ecuador on September 22, 2006, he died suddenly while studying beetles near the Amazon. He was 61 years old.

Frank was born on August 19, 1945 in El Centro, California. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Biology and English at California State University, Northridge, in 1971, and later worked as an adjunct biology professor at his alma mater. Further advancing his education led Frank to the University of California, Los Angeles where he was a Ph.D. candidate in evolutionary biology.

Enthusiastic and dedicated to the study of insects, he also cared deeply about teaching others. Over 35 years ago, Frank began teaching children from a school bus parked at Placerita Canyon's Nature Center. He was instrumental in the creation of the center's education program, which now reaches over 10,000 schoolchildren a year. He trained docents, served on the center's foundation board, and was an active volunteer at the nature center until his death. Frank is credited with making the Placerita Canyon Natural Area and Nature Center one of the premier environmental education facilities in Southern California.

Long considered the world's authority on beetles, Frank published books and many papers on the subject. In addition, he was a scientific adviser on David Attenborough's 2005 acclaimed documentary series "Life in the Undergrowth" and provided his expertise on the movie "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom." Director Steven Spielberg recruited

Frank to trek to Central America to collect insects for the movie's famous cave scene.

Working as a park naturalist and natural-areas supervisor for the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for 23 years, Frank managed resources and operations for more than 6,500 acres of county parkland, sanctuaries, and open space. For more than a decade, he also served on the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission's Significant Ecological Areas Technical Advisory Committee where he provided astute insights, wise counsel, and excellent leadership.

Retiring from county government in 1994, he began Frank Hovore & Associates, a biological consulting firm that provided planning for parks, plant and animal surveys, environmental education, and habitat conservation plans. Consulting afforded Frank the time to travel widely for research on New World beetles deemed essential to forest ecosystems worldwide.

Frank will be remembered as an honest, curious, and caring man who was generous with his time and talents in order to protect the environment, to explore nature's mysteries, and to mentor others. His passing leaves a void in the lives of many people, but his legacy will live on forever through the contributions he made to the world as a scientist, educator, and environmentalist. Frank's greatest role, however, was as a father to his daughter, Holly, and to his son, Tom.

With his passionate love of nature, and keen intellect, Frank Hovore might have identified with Robert Frost when he said, "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less traveled by. And that has made all the difference." In an effort to understand the insect world, Frank often took the road less traveled. And he made a difference, a world of difference.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I was excused from Washington on Thursday, September 28, 2006, to attend a funeral in Wisconsin. As a result, I was not recorded for rollcall votes No. 495, No. 496, No. 497, No. 498, No. 499 and No. 500. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 495, No. 496, No. 497, No. 498, No. 499 and No. 500.

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 3525, the Child and Family Services Improvement Act of 2006. This legislation reflects a bipartisan agreement developed by the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee to reauthorize

and improve important child welfare programs under our jurisdictions.

Other bills might attract more media attention, but few are more important. This agreement reflects our mutual interest in doing more to ensure children are protected from harm. To achieve this goal, the bill increases resources for activities and services that will help prevent child abuse and neglect from occurring. But it also involves spending more intelligently and with greater accountability the money we have previously committed for these purposes.

For example, we know from numerous reports and simple common sense that when caseworkers visit children in foster care, children are safer and more quickly placed in permanent homes. While most States agree that children in foster care should be visited at least once per month, there currently is no consequence for States that fail to meet that standard. Moreover, data suggest that most States can't even tell which foster children are visited and how often. Very simply, these children and the Federal taxpayers who support these programs deserve much better.

The Child and Family Services Improvement Act is designed to address this shortcoming by requiring additional accountability. Specifically, the legislation will require States to ensure that, within 5 years, they can document caseworker visits once a month to at least 900 percent of foster children.

This is a significant step in the right direction. This legislation requires States to increase child protection funding or risk losing Federal funds. That's the right structure—continue today's generous level of Federal support, but insist that States that don't make the grade contribute more of their own funds to improve these programs.

This agreement will also target \$145 million over the next 5 years for preventing and treating parental substance abuse, including involving methamphetamines. This is an issue of great concern to me because the State of California, its Central Valley region, and Kern County, which I represent, unfortunately have significant levels of methamphetamine production, use, and distribution.

The Child and Family Services Improvement Act is good policy; it not only targets increased resources for prevention, it also is fully paid for, which protects taxpayers. Thus, it is not surprising that numerous groups including Catholic Charities, the Center for Law and Social Policy, Lutheran Social Services, and the National Congress of American Indians, have endorsed this important legislation.

Finally, I would like to thank Ways and Means Human Resources Subcommittee Chairman WALLY HERGER and Ranking Member JIM McDERMOTT, and Senate Finance Committee Chairman CHARLES GRASSLEY and Ranking Member MAX BAUCUS for their hard work on this legislation. Accordingly, I ask my colleagues to support this legislation and send it to the President's desk without delay.

INTRODUCTION OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT RESTORATION ACT OF 2006

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, 16 years ago, a bipartisan Congress took significant steps to break down the physical and societal barriers that for far too long kept disabled Americans from fully participating in all aspects of American life. Prior to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, commonly known as the ADA, disabled Americans were subjected to false stereotypes, experienced discrimination in almost all aspects of society, and were relegated to a form of second class citizenship.

The ADA changed this by restoring the full meaning of equal protection under the law and all the promises that our Nation has to offer. Through the ADA and its broad protections from discrimination in employment, State and local government programs and services, places of public accommodation and services provided by private entities, transportation, and telecommunication services, disabled citizens have experienced increased opportunities, higher graduation rates, higher employment rates and lower rates of poverty. Because of this landmark civil rights law, disabled American citizens no longer live in isolation but live as independent, self sufficient members of our communities.

However, beginning in 1999, through a trilogy of cases beginning with *Sutton v. United Airlines, Inc.*, the Supreme Court has slowly chipped away at the broad protections of the ADA and has created a new set of barriers for disabled Americans. An oversight hearing held by the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution revealed that certain decisions of the Supreme Court have actually worked to exclude millions of disabled Americans from the ADA's protections, the very citizens that Congress expressly sought to include within the scope of the Act in 1990.

The impact of these decisions is such that disabled Americans can be discriminated against by their employers because of their conditions, but they are not considered disabled enough by our Federal courts to invoke the protections of the ADA. This is unacceptable.

The bipartisan legislation that I am introducing today will enable disabled Americans utilizing the ADA to focus on the discrimination that they have experienced rather than having to first prove that they fall within the scope of the ADA's protection. With this bill, the ADA's "clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination on the basis of disability" will be properly restored and the ADA can rightfully reclaim its place among our Nation's civil rights laws.

TRIBUTE TO MS. VIRGINIA DAY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Virginia M. Day of Altoona, Pennsylvania, who will receive the 2006 John Riley